

I. Listing of Claims

This listing of claims is being provided for the Examiner's convenience. The claims have not been amended.

Claims 1-75. (cancelled)

Claim 76. (previously presented) A controlled release oral solid dosage form comprising a therapeutically effective amount of lovastatin and a controlled release carrier, said dosage form increasing the bioavailability of lovastatin and not increasing the bioavailability of lovastatin acid, as compared to the same amount of lovastatin administered in an immediate release dosage form, the dosage form providing a reduction in serum cholesterol levels when administered to human patients on a once-a-day basis.

Claim 77. (currently amended) A controlled release oral solid dosage form of claim 76, ~~comprising a therapeutically effective amount of lovastatin and a controlled release carrier~~, wherein the bioavailability of lovastatin and its latent and active metabolites at steady state conditions is about 1.4 to about 2 fold the bioavailability attained by the same amount of lovastatin administered once daily in an immediate release dosage form, the dosage form providing a reduction in serum cholesterol levels when administered to human patients on a once-a-day basis.

Claim 78. (currently amended) A controlled release oral solid dosage form of claim 76, ~~comprising a therapeutically effective amount of lovastatin and a controlled release carrier~~, said dosage form providing an AUC_{0-24h} of lovastatin of greater than 100% of the AUC_{0-24h} provided by the same amount of lovastatin administered in an immediate release dosage form, and said dosage form providing an AUC_{0-24h} of lovastatin acid of less than 100% provided by the same amount of lovastatin administered in an immediate release dosage form, the dosage form providing a reduction in serum cholesterol levels when administered to human patients on a once-a-day basis.

Claim 79. (currently amended) A controlled release oral solid dosage form of claim 76, ~~comprising a therapeutically effective amount of lovastatin and a controlled release carrier~~, said dosage form after administration of a single dose providing a ratio of AUC_{0-24h} of lovastatin to AUC_{0-24h} of lovastatin acid of from about 1:1 to about 3.6:1, the dosage form providing a reduction in serum cholesterol levels when administered to human patients on a once-a-day basis.

Claim 80. (currently amended) A controlled release oral solid dosage form of claim 76, ~~comprising a therapeutically effective amount of lovastatin and a controlled release carrier~~, said dosage form after once daily administration for 28 days providing a ratio of AUC_{0-24h} of lovastatin to AUC_{0-24h} of lovastatin acid of from about 0.74:1 to about 2:1, the dosage form providing a reduction in serum cholesterol levels when administered to human patients on a once-a-day basis.

Claim 81. (currently amended) A controlled release oral solid dosage form of claim 76, ~~comprising a therapeutically effective amount of lovastatin and a controlled release carrier~~, said dosage form after administration of a single dose providing a ratio of C_{max} of lovastatin to C_{max} of lovastatin acid of from about 1.1:1 to about 5:1.

Claim 82. (currently amended) A controlled release oral solid dosage form of claim 76, ~~comprising a therapeutically effective amount of lovastatin and a controlled release carrier~~, said dosage form after once daily administration for 28 days providing a ratio of C_{max} of lovastatin to C_{max} of lovastatin acid of from about 0.75:1 to about 3:1, the dosage form providing a reduction in serum cholesterol levels when administered to human patients on a once-a-day basis.

Claim 83. (previously presented) The controlled release oral solid dosage form of claim 79, wherein the ratio is about 1.3:1.

Claim 84. (previously presented) The controlled release oral solid dosage form of claim 80, wherein the ratio is about 0.87:1.

Claim 85. (previously presented) The controlled release oral solid dosage form of claim 81, wherein the ratio is about 1.74:1.

Claim 86. (previously presented) The controlled release oral solid dosage form of claim 82, wherein the ratio is about 0.95:1.

Claim 87. (previously presented) The controlled release oral solid dosage form of claim 76, wherein the T_{max} provided by the dosage form is from about 10 to about 32 hours.